THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) The annual plan outlays of the States are decided keeping in view the State's own resources (SOR) and level of Central assistance. The normal plan assistance by the Central Government to the States which is distributed according to the Gadgil Mukherjee formula (1991) is weighted in favour of less developed States. As per the formula, after providing required funds for externally Aided Projects and for Area Programmes, from the balance, 30% is kept aside and distributed among the 10 Special Category States (which include the North Eastern States) on the basis of their requirements and availability of resources. The balance is distributed among the Non-Special Category States by taking into account factors like State's per capita income, population, special problems etc. Further the Central Assistance to the Special Category States is given as 90% grant and 10% loan whereas for the Non-Special Category States the grant-loan ratio is 30:70. Government also assists in the development of designated areas under various area development programmes like Border Area Development Programme (BADP), Hill Area Development Programme (HADP). Backward States are also getting priority in allocation of Central Assistance for Basic Minimum Services (BMS).

Annual Plan of Punjab

3906. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether planning Commission has approved the Annual Plan of Punjab for 1997-98;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the share of the State for the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997—2002) has been fixed; and

(d) if so, the sector wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (d) The Annual Plan 1997-98 and the Ninth Five Year Plan (1997—2002) for Punjab State are yet to be finalised.

Norms for Determining Poverty Line

3907. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the norms for determining the poverty line have recently been revised;

(b) if so, the revised norms and standards of living fixed in terms of the caloric value of food, clothing and shelter and access to health facilities;

(c) whether the revised norms talk only of two square meals day; if so, the reasons for ignoring other parameters; and

(d) the latest estimated number and percentage of population living below poverty line, rural and urban, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K ALAGH): (a) to (c) The incidence of poverty is based on the poverty line adopted by the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor which defined the poverty line at national level as monthly per capita consumer expenditure of Rs. 49.09 in rural areas and Rs. 56.64 in urban areas at 1973-74 prices corresponding to a basket of goods and services anchored on a norm of per capita daily calorie requirement of 2400 in rural areas and 2100 in urban areas. This way of deriving poverty line focusses on the purchasing power needed to meet the specific calorie intake standard with some margin for non-food consumption needs such as clothing, shelter, health etc.

(d) The latest available state-wise estimates of number and percentage of population living below the poverty line in rural and urban areas of 1993-94 following the recently adopted methodology based on the report of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor is in the enclosed statement.